

CLAIMS

1. A content use device for using composite content recorded on a recording medium, the composite content including a plurality of pieces of content, the content use device comprising:

an acquisition unit operable to acquire a designation of one of the plurality of pieces of content;

a judgment unit operable to judge whether the designated piece of content is usable, based on contract information relating to use of the designated piece of content;

a selection unit operable to select one of the plurality of pieces of content, according to a result of the judgment by the judgment unit; and

an output unit operable to output the selected piece of content.

2. The content use device of Claim 1,

wherein the selection unit selects the designated piece of content if the designated piece of content is judged as being usable, and selects an alternative piece of content instead of the designated piece of content if the designated piece of content is judged as being not usable, the alternative piece of content being included

in the composite content in correspondence with the designated piece of content.

3. The content use device of Claim 2,

5 wherein the composite content recorded on the recording medium includes a content identifier for identifying the designated piece of content and an alternative content identifier for identifying the alternative piece of content, in correspondence with each
10 other,

the selection unit selects the designated piece of content by extracting the content identifier from the composite content if the designated piece of content is judged as being usable, and selects the alternative piece
15 of content by extracting the alternative content identifier corresponding to the content identifier from the composite content if the designated piece of content is judged as being not usable, and

the output unit reads the piece of content identified
20 by the extracted content identifier or alternative content identifier from the recording medium, and outputs the read piece of content.

4. The content use device of Claim 1,

25 wherein the judgment unit acquires the contract

information, and judges whether the designated piece of content is usable based on the acquired contract information.

5 5. The content use device of Claim 4,

wherein the composite content recorded on the recording medium includes a license identifier for identifying the contract information, and

the judgment unit includes:

10 a contract information storage unit operable to prestore the license identifier and the contract information in correspondence with each other;

an identifier extraction unit operable to extract the license identifier from the composite content; and

15 a judging unit operable to read the contract information corresponding to the extracted license identifier from the contract information storage unit, and judge whether the designated piece of content is usable based on the read contract information.

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6. The content use device of Claim 4,

wherein the composite content recorded on the recording medium includes a content identifier for identifying the designated piece of content and a license

25 identifier for identifying the contract information, in

correspondence with each other, and

the judgment unit includes:

a contract information storage unit operable to
prestore the license identifier and the contract

5 information in correspondence with each other;

an identifier extraction unit operable to extract
the license identifier corresponding to the content
identifier for identifying the designated piece of content,
from the composite content; and

10 a judging unit operable to read the contract
information corresponding to the extracted license
identifier from the contract information storage unit,
and judge whether the designated piece of content is usable
based on the read contract information.

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7. The content use device of Claim 4,

wherein the composite content recorded on the
recording medium includes a content identifier for
identifying the designated piece of content, and

20 the judgment unit includes:

a contract information storage unit operable to
prestore the content identifier and the contract
information in correspondence with each other;

25 an identifier extraction unit operable to extract
the content identifier from the composite content; and

a judging unit operable to read the contract information corresponding to the extracted content identifier from the contract information storage unit, and judge whether the designated piece of content is usable
5 based on the read contract information.

8. The content use device of Claim 1,

wherein the composite content recorded on the recording medium includes playback path information
10 showing a correspondence between the designated piece of content and a preceding piece of content that is to be output immediately before the designated piece of content, and

after the output unit outputs the preceding piece
15 of content, the acquisition unit extracts the playback path information from the composite content, and acquires the designation in accordance with the extracted playback path information.

20 9. The content use device of Claim 1,

wherein the plurality of pieces of content include a plurality of pieces of angle content that are used for multi-angle switching,

the acquisition unit acquires the designation of one
25 of the plurality of pieces of angle content,

the judgment unit judges whether the designated piece of angle content is usable, based on the contract information, and

the selection unit selects a group of outputtable pieces of angle content according to the result of the judgment by the judgment unit, and selects one piece of angle content from the selected group, and

the output unit outputs the selected piece of angle content.

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10. The content use device of Claim 1,

wherein the plurality of pieces of content include a plurality of pieces of auxiliary content that are each made up of any of audio data and subtitle data output together with video data,

the acquisition unit acquires the designation of one of the plurality of pieces of auxiliary content,

the judgment unit judges whether the designated piece of auxiliary content is usable, based on the contract information,

the selection unit selects a group of outputtable pieces of auxiliary content according to the result of the judgment by the judgment unit, and selects one piece of auxiliary content from the selected group, and

the output unit outputs the selected piece of

auxiliary content.

11. The content use device of Claim 1,

wherein the plurality of pieces of content each

5 contain an encrypted digital work, and

the output unit decrypts an encrypted digital work contained in the selected piece of content, and outputs the decrypted digital work.

10 12. A content use method used in a content use device for using composite content recorded on a recording medium, the composite content including a plurality of pieces of content, the content use method comprising steps of:

15 acquiring a designation of one of the plurality of pieces of content;

judging whether the designated piece of content is usable, based on contract information relating to use of the designated piece of content;

20 selecting one of the plurality of pieces of content, according to a result of the judgment by the judgment step; and

outputting the selected piece of content.

13. A computer program used in a computer for using composite
25 content recorded on a recording medium, the composite

content including a plurality of pieces of content, the computer program comprising program code operable to cause the computer to perform steps of:

acquiring a designation of one of the plurality of
5 pieces of content;

judging whether the designated piece of content is usable, based on contract information relating to use of the designated piece of content;

selecting one of the plurality of pieces of content,
10 according to a result of the judgment by the judgment step;
and

outputting the selected piece of content.

14. The computer program of Claim 13 being stored on a
15 computer-readable storage medium.

15. The computer program of Claim 13 being transmitted via a carrier wave.

20 16. A recording medium on which composite content including a plurality of pieces of content is recorded,

wherein the composite content includes a piece of content and an alternative piece of content in correspondence with each other, the alternative piece of
25 content being to be output instead of the piece of content

if the piece of content is not usable.

17. The recording medium of Claim 16,

5 wherein the composite content includes control
information which includes, in correspondence with each
other, content information showing the piece of content
and alternative content information showing the
alternative piece of content.